



# Inside Illinois DNR

August 2018

Volume 6, Number 8

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## IDNR Careers

**IDNR offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. Click [here](#) to see what jobs openings are available.**

## A Message from Director Wayne Rosenthal



If you like food, fun, and free family entertainment and activities, the Illinois State Fair in Springfield is a great place for you to be during its 2018 edition, set for August 9-19. While you are visiting the fair, make sure you spend some time with us in Conservation World, hosted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Conservation World is a 30-acre park on the fairgrounds, adjacent to the IDNR headquarters. Thousands of families have made a walk through Conservation

World part of their state fair routine for more than 40 years. Our activities and entertainment are family-friendly – and free.

As part of the Illinois Bicentennial festivities in 2018, the theme of the Illinois State Fair is “Celebrate Illinois – 200 Years of Amazing” – and Conservation World features some of the ways families can celebrate outdoors.

Bring the kids for an up-close look at some of Illinois’ best sport fish in the new 2,800-gallon see-through fish aquarium in the Fisheries Tent in Conservation World. Kids fishing clinics and fly-fishing clinics are also on the schedule. Kids can test their aim on the archery and BB gun ranges – with expert help available from safety education volunteers and skilled instructors.

Wildlife biologists can help you plot your hunting plans. Heritage biologists can provide advice on habitat enhancements. Our Education staff will have resources for teachers, and free seed packets for families to plant a pollinator garden at home. Mines and minerals experts can show you how valuable Illinois’ underground resources are to our lives above ground.

Families love the Voyageur canoe rides on the Conservation World pond during state fair weekends. The Paul Bunyan Lumberjacks are back for exciting free shows every day at Conservation World.

For expert waterfowl hunters and novices alike, there’s a new event – hosted by the folks at the RFD Radio Network. It is the first Illinois State Fair Duck Calling Contest. It will follow the Hog Calling and Husband Calling contests at the Department of Agriculture tent on Sunday, August 12.

No matter what day (or days) you plan to attend the Illinois State Fair, please plan to spend some time with us at Conservation World. We will be open from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. each day, August 10-19, featuring those state fair essentials – food, fun, and free family entertainment and activities.

See you at the fair!

*Wayne Rosenthal*

## DNR in the news

**IDOT Continues  
Effort**

**Maturing prairie  
completes  
wetland center  
puzzle**

**Lake Michigan  
water trail**

**Electrofishing the  
Mississippi River**

## Statewide Offices

**Springfield, IL**  
217-782-6302

**Bartlett, IL**  
847-608-3100

**Benton, IL**  
618-435-8138

**Chicago, IL**  
312-814-2070

## Highlights



### **Controlled Pheasant Hunting Reservation Information Available Now. Online Reservations Start August 6**

Controlled pheasant hunting opportunities will be available at 18 IDNR sites during the 2018-19 hunting season. Dates and permit reservation information are now available online. Sixteen of the sites are operated by the IDNR, while two other sites continue to be operated in a public/private partnership arrangement between the IDNR and concessionaire T. Miller, Inc. The online permit reservation system for IDNR-operated sites opens on August 6, and permit information, season dates, and other information are now available. [For more information click here](#)



### **119th Grand American World Trapshooting Championships is August 1-11**

The Grand American World Trapshooting Championships are underway in Sparta, IL at IDNR's World Shooting & Recreational Complex. It is the largest shooting event of its kind. With more than 20 events, shooters from all over the globe come to compete in hopes of claiming one of the available prestigious world titles. [For more information click here](#)



For tickets: call 217-632-5440 or  
visit [www.TheatreinthePark.net](http://www.TheatreinthePark.net).

### **Theatre in the Park presents *Oliver!***

All outdoor performances are at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site's Amphitheatre at Kelso Hollow. Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* begins at 8:00 p.m., on August 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, & 11. Theatre in the Park's 2018 Season is endorsed as an Illinois Bicentennial Commission event. Get your tickets online today.

[For more information click here](#)

### **Peach Festival is August 12**



It's Peach Season in Grafton, and that means it is time for the great Peach Festival at Pere Marquette State Park Lodge. The Festival takes place once a year at the historic landmark and attracts visitors from all over the region. From young children to those who have been sampling peaches for decades, the Festival offers a chance to enjoy a free family outing and sample some of the most delicious peaches in the country. Local peach growers from all over the area will be presenting their carefully tended peaches for visitors to sample and purchase. [For more information click here](#)

**Check out these amazing time-lapse videos of Illinois' [Great State Parks](#)**



## Eternal Indian

E. D. Etnyre & Co., hosted members of the Illinois Conservation Foundation, Oregon Together, Black Hawk Team and City Representative at their facilities on, July 18.

This gathering was a private affair for Etnyre to present a donation of \$100,000 to be put towards the refurbishing project of The Eternal Indian.

When the call for help came in to restore this historical landmark by the Oregon Together Black Hawk Team, a dedicated local group of citizens devoted to ensuring the preservation of this nationally recognized historical landmark; it was only fitting that E. D. Etnyre & Co. would answer the call.

## Visit ICF

(217) 785-2003

## Highlights



### Antique Auto Show at David Davis Mansion is August 4

Beautiful, historic cars in a beautiful, historic setting – that's the promise of 22nd Annual Antique Car Exhibition on August 4 at the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site in Bloomington. More than 75 cars from the 1900s through the 1980s will

be displayed on the mansion grounds from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visitors can stroll through the amazing collection of vintage vehicles on display. They can view the cars up close, talk with the owners, and meet fellow automobile enthusiasts. [For more information click here](#)



### Wildlife in the Classroom

Teachers, has a student ever brought an animal to your classroom and asked you to keep it? Have you ever seen a feather or a bird's nest and wanted to use it to supplement your lessons? Has anyone donated an empty hornets' nest to your school? Do you know the Illinois and federal laws that apply to these situations? Teachers often

come into contact with wildlife or wildlife remains, willingly or not. It is important to know what to do before you are placed in these situations. Wildlife in the Classroom from the IDNR is a simple guide to these and other related issues. [For more information click here](#)



### Camping Reservations

Summer is a great time for camping in Illinois. Make campsite and shelter reservations for many IDNR sites online through the Reserve America website at [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com) using a credit card at least 3 days in advance of your arrival. [For more information click here.](#)

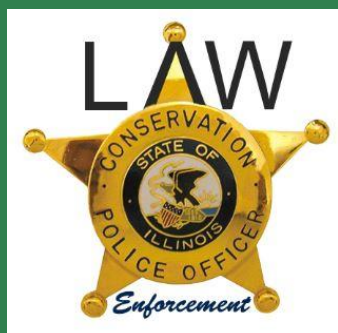
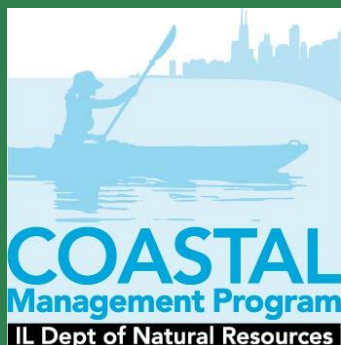


CAHOKIA MOUNDS  
STATE HISTORIC SITE

### Cahokia Mounds Archaeology Day is August 4

Join in for a day of demonstrations of ancient crafts, artifact processing, storytelling and hands-on activities. The excavations will be open for tours. Visitors can help screen dirt and speak

with the archaeologists working at the site. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. This is a free event. [For more information click here](#)



## IDNR IRAP Program Accepting Applications for Archery Deer Hunting on Private Property

Applications are being accepted for archery deer hunting on private land this October through the Illinois Recreational Access Program (IRAP). The application deadline is August 24. IRAP has more than 18,500 acres of private land leased for public access. More than 120 deer hunting sites are available to the public for archery deer hunting for the month of October through IRAP in 20 counties, including Calhoun, Christian, Clay, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Jersey, Lee, Macoupin, Marion, McDonough, Monroe, Pike, Pope, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Wayne, Whiteside, and Williamson. [For more information click here](#)



## Hummingbird Festival is August 18

Starting at 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site is the Hummingbird Festival on August 18. The Log Cabin Birders and Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders will band hummingbirds. Group members will be describing hummingbird banding and migration. [For more information click here](#)



## Doors Open Illinois

Admission will be free of charge at the Illinois State Museum both Saturday and Sunday, August 11 and 12. The Museum will extend its Sunday hours to open at 11:00 a.m. The Play Museum also opens at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday. *Doors Open Illinois* is presented in partnership with the Illinois Office of Tourism. [For more information click here](#)



## Starved Rock State Park Seeks Visitor Input

The beauty of Starved Rock State Park has attracted generations of visitors. Now your input can help us plan for the park's future. If you have visited Starved Rock, please take a few minutes to help us plan for the park's future by sharing your experience as a visitor. What facilities, activities and services would you like the park to provide and what you would improve? Enter your contact information at the end of the survey for a chance to win an overnight stay, breakfast and trolley tour! [For more information click here](#)





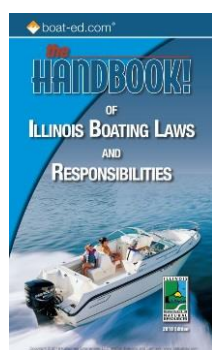
## First Shots During the Grand American

In celebration of National Shooting Sports Month, the National Shooting Sports Foundation will offer First Shots experiences and product demos during the Grand American at the World Shooting and Recreational Complex in Sparta on August 4 and 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Visit the NSSF First Shots tent for a free introduction or reintroduction to the shooting sports. First Shots participants will be provided with all essential equipment to enjoy a safe, fun experience, plus National Shooting Sports Month shirts and hats. Registration is not required but encouraged. To pre-register, or for more information, contact Zach Snow at [zsnow@nssf.org](mailto:zsnow@nssf.org) or 203-545-6614. [For more information click here](#)



## IDNR Proposing Changes in Rules Regarding Construction of Waterfowl Blinds at Public Sites

IDNR has amended changes in regulations regarding materials that can be used to construct waterfowl hunting blinds at public hunting sites that would begin with the 2019-2020 allocation period. IDNR was proposing the restrictions in blind construction materials in an effort to reduce debris in waterways and adjacent property. [For more information click here](#)



## Handbook of Illinois Boat Laws and Responsibilities

In Illinois, no person born on or after January 1, 1998, unless exempt, may operate a motorboat with over 10 horsepower unless that person has a valid Boating Safety Certificate issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, or by an entity or organization recognized and approved by the Department. [For more information click here](#)

[For more information check out our monthly calendar of events!](#)

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